

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

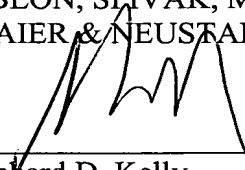
Claims 1, 3-8 and 10-28 are presently pending in this application, Claims 16-18 having been withdrawn from further consideration by the Examiner and Claims 26-28 having been newly added by the present amendment.

Claims 26-28 have been newly added herein. Claims 26-28 are believed to include subject matters recited in Claims 2, 7 and 19, respectively, to the extent indicated as allowable in the Office Action dated March 29, 2006. Therefore, Claims 26-28 are believed to be allowable along with Claims 1, 3-8, 10-15 and 19-25.

Applicant respectfully requests that the examination of this application be conducted in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Richard D. Kelly
Registration No. 27,757
Robert T. Pous
Registration No. 29,099
Attorneys of Record

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

RDK/RTP/YO/mda
I:\ATTY\AKY\24S\246309\SUPPLEMENTAL AME.DOC